

Grants.gov
Annual Report for
Fiscal Year 2006



Mission Statement

Grants.gov's mission is to provide a single website for the public to electronically find and apply for federal discretionary grants. Funded by the twenty-six federal grant-making agencies with oversight provided by the Grants Executive Board and OMB, Grants.gov is one of the 24 E-Gov initiatives created in response to the President's Management Agenda and Public Law 106-107.

Letter from the Chairman

Fiscal Year 2006 (FY 2006) was an exciting, productive year for Grants.gov. As the Chairman of the Grants Executive Board, I want to thank, on behalf of the Board, the grant community for embracing Grants.gov and providing us the reassurance of purpose through their participation, utilization, and feedback.

Starting with the merge of the Find and Apply functionalities, Grants.gov launched into a year of expansion, enhancements, and improved service. Over the course of the last year, Grants.gov has improved its website design, validated its operating model and met the many challenges of a program coming of age. Along the way, Grants.gov exceeded the expectation of participation with 21 out of 26 agencies reaching the 75% posting goal and increasing its operating capacity, facilitating the government-wide processing of over 90,000 submissions.

FY 2006 was a very successful and productive year for Grants.gov and we look forward to exceeding the expectations for FY 2007. With the support of the grant community, who has embraced Grants.gov over the past several years, I am positive that, together, we can make the Find and Apply process easier and more efficient for everyone.



Chairman
Grants Executive Board FY 2006

Overview

Grants.gov is the Federal Government's single site for grant-making agencies and organizations to publish grant funding opportunities and application packages online. Grants.gov enables the grant community, which includes over 1 million organizations, to search for grant opportunities, and download, complete and electronically submit applications for the over \$400 billion worth of grant awards distributed annually.

Working with the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), federal grant-making agencies, and the grant community, The President's Management Agenda and Public Law 106-107, the Federal Financial Assistance Management Improvement Act of 1999, provided the mission for Grants.gov, which called for "...applicants for federal grants to apply for, and ultimately manage, grant funds online through a common web site, simplifying grants management and eliminating redundancies." Additionally, Public Law 106-107 called for the establishment of "...a common system, including electronic processes, wherein a non-Federal entity can apply for, manage, and report on the use of funding from multiple financial assistance programs..."

Given the government-wide scope of the Grants.gov initiative, a funding strategy was developed to disperse costs among the 26 federal grant-making agencies. Oversight of the initiative is provided by the Grants Executive Board (GEB) which is comprised of one representative from each of the 26 contributing agencies and exercises oversight of the Grants.gov and Grants Management Line of Business (GMLOB) initiatives. The Board exercises executive sponsorship of the Grants.gov and GMLOB initiatives' strategy and timetables, ensures agency consensus, provides oversight for the initiatives' outcomes in the agencies, and resolves inter-agency issues. The Board also oversees Grants.gov's budget and expenditures in conjunction with the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), which serves as the managing partner for the Grants.gov initiative, providing operational and fiscal oversight.

From its inception, Grants.gov has transformed the federal grants environment by streamlining and standardizing public-facing grant processes thus facilitating an easier grants submission process for State, Local and Tribal governments, non-profit organizations, education and research institutions, and public housing authorities. As of September 2006, over 1,000 discretionary grant opportunities were available for application on Grants.gov and over 1 million email notifications announcing newly posted grant opportunities were sent every week at the public's request.

Grants Executive Board FY 2006

Chairman of the Board FY 2006

Jerry Fralick
Chief Information Officer/Office of Justice Programs
Department of Justice

Grants Executive Board Members

Marlene Zakai
Director
Office of Grants Policy and Operations
Corporation for National and Community
Service

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Associate Chief Information Officer, Enterprise
Planning
Project & Information Management
Department of Agriculture

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Deputy Chief Financial Officer
Department of Education

Michael S. Sade
Director for Acquisition Management and
Procurement Executive
Department of Commerce

Dr. William O. Berry, Ph.D.
Director for Basic Research
Department of Defense

Michael Fischetti
Director of the Office of Policy in the Office of
Procurement and Assistance Management
Department of Energy

Charles Havekost (October 2005-June 2006)
Chief Information Officer
Department of Health and Human Services

Betty Wu (July 2006-September 2006)
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for Office of
Grants
Department of Health and Human Services

Van Pace
Director Grant Policy & Oversight Office
Department of Homeland Security

Keith Nelson
Assistant Secretary for Administration
Department of Housing and Urban
Development

E. Melodee Stith
Associate Director, Acquisition and Financial
Assistance
Department of Interior

Tom Dowd
Deputy Assistant Secretary for Employment and
Training Acquisition
Department of Labor

Corey Rindner
Procurement Executive
Department of State

Michael Walsh
Director (Sr. Procurement Executive), Office of
Acquisition and Assistance
Agency for International Development

David J. Litman
Senior Procurement Executive
Department of Transportation

Larry Gross
Associate Chief Information Officer for Electronic
Government
Department of Treasury

Tom Garin
Office of Policy, Planning and Preparedness
Department of Veterans Affairs

Howard Corcoran
Director, Office of Grants and Debarment
Environmental Protection Agency

Rebecca Danvers, Ph.D.
Director of Office of Research and Technology
Institute for Museum and Library Services

Jamiel Commodore
Office of Procurement
National Aeronautics and Space
Administration

Max Evans
Executive Director, National Historical Publications
and Records Commission
National Archives and Records
Administration

Michael Burke
Chief Information Officer
National Endowment for the Arts

Brett Bobley
Chief Information Officer
National Endowment for the Humanities

Mary Santonastasso
Director, Division of Institution and Award Support
National Science Foundation

Sharon Gurley
Director of the Office of Procurement and
Grants Management
Small Business Administration

Stanley March
Associate Commissioner for Acquisition and Grants
Social Security Administration

Ex-officio Members

Stacie Boyd
Government-to-Government Portfolio Manager
Office of Management and Budget

Tom Cooley
Co-Chair, Grants Policy Committee
Chief Financial Officer
National Science Foundation

John Etcheverry
Program Manager
Grants.gov

Susan Grant
Co-Chair, Grants Policy Committee
Chief Financial Officer
Department of Energy

FY 2006 Program Management Office

The federal program management staff at Grants.gov brings a wide variety of experience and expertise to work for both the grantor and grantee communities.

Rebecca Spitzgo

*Program Manager

John Etcheverry

*Deputy Program Manager/Acting Program Manager

Terry Nicolosi

Operations Manager/Deputy Program Manager/Acting Program Manager

Katie Root

Business Transformation/Contact Center

Vince Sprouls

Program Advisor—System to System/Policy Lead

Keenon James

Program Advisor—Lead Program Advisor/Forms

Mary Gonzales

Program Advisor – Lead, Nonprofits, State and Local

Laura Quirk

Staff Assistant

**partial year service*

Detailees serving at Grants.gov during FY 2006

Peter Brunner

Department of Labor

Jen Flach

National Institutes of Health

Judy Regelman

National Endowment for the Humanities

Anne Lopez-Buitrago

National Endowment for the Humanities

Dr. Phil Irish

Department of Defense

Russ Wyland

National Endowment for the Humanities

Jim Cain

National Institutes of Health

Mannie Pair

Department of Defense

FY 2006 Major Activities and Accomplishments

Grants.gov has achieved tremendous growth during FY 2006. Grants.gov successfully met the established FY 2006 milestones, thus supporting the continued maturity and growth of the system.

Deployment of the Integrated Find and Apply: On December 19, 2005, the Grants.gov Program Management Office (PMO) completed the milestone to integrate the Find and Apply databases.

E-Authentication for Grantors Implemented: The Grants.gov PMO met a milestone by working with the E-Authentication team and successfully deploying multiple credential providers to the federal grantor community on August 30, 2006.

Site Redesign: A Grants.gov site content redesign was launched on July 7, 2006 with enhanced features and capabilities allowing greater efficiency in searching and applying for grants.

System to System Growth: The Grants.gov PMO deployed system-to-system functionality allowing applicant organizations and agencies to integrate their systems with Grants.gov:

Applicant System-to-System: 39 private sector providers are registered to submit applications using XML and Web Services.

Agency System-to-System: 30 federal agency systems are integrated for pulling applications to their systems.

Merged System Overview: On January 18, 2006, the Grants.gov PMO hosted two sessions for the grantor agencies. These sessions provided an opportunity for the agencies to learn about the newly merged Grants.gov system.

Federal Register Notice for Early Registration: The Grants.gov PMO worked closely with the Grants Executive Board and HHS, the managing partner, to publish a notice in the Federal Register, which advised grantees to register early with Grants.gov.

Early Registration WebCast: The Grants.gov PMO hosted a live webcast on February 9, 2006, as a follow-up to the Federal Register Notice, emphasizing the need to register early with Grants.gov and offering an opportunity for Q&A. The webcast had over 4,000 participants.

Deployment of the Citrix Server: Grants.gov partnered with HHS' National Institute of Health to launch a Citrix server to allow non-Windows users to download and complete PureEdge forms and also submit completed grant applications via Grants.gov.

C&A Refresh Complete: The Certification and Accreditation refresh for Grants.gov was completed at the end of July 2006.

New Systems Integrator Contract Awarded: The Grants.gov PMO awarded a hybrid time-and-materials/ fixed-price performance-based task order on September 7, 2006 for System Integration Services to Anteon Corporation.

Stakeholder Listserv Operational: Grants.gov sent out its first listserv email on June 1, 2006 to the Stakeholder members to provide them with the Stakeholder Meeting update.

Grants.gov FY 2006 Funding Strategy, Services, and Budget

Given the government-wide scope of the Grants.gov initiative, Grants.gov is funded by contributions from the 26 federal grant-making agencies.

The FY 2006 funding algorithm was developed using the total grant dollars each agency awarded in FY 2002, including discretionary and mandatory grants. Based on this data, agencies were classified as Large, Medium, or Small.

Figure 1: Total FY 2006 agency contributions by size

Small Agencies
(\$236,340 per agency)

CNCS	NEH
VA	NEA
IMLS	SSA
STATE	TREASURY
SBA	NARA

Total FY 2006
submissions
5,105

Medium Agencies
(\$452,680 per agency)

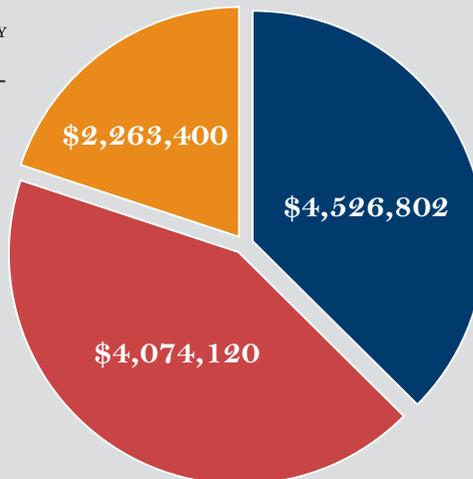
USAID	DoJ
DHS	DoE
NSF	DoC
EPA	NASA
DoD*	DoL

Total FY 2006
submissions
19,215

Large Agencies
(\$754,467 per agency)

HHS
DoT
DoED
HUD
USDA
DoL

Total FY 2006
submissions
65,725



In FY 2005 and FY 2006, OMB memorandum M-04-14, "FY 2004 Grants.gov Funding and Advance Planning Guidance for FY 2005 – FY 2006," (<http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/memoranda/fy04/m04-14.pdf>), provided advance planning guidance to agencies for Grants.gov funding. This guidance utilized a funding algorithm which divided agencies into three bands: small, medium and large.

* Congress reduced DoD's e-Gov budget for FY2006. As a result, DoD did not contribute to Grants.gov in FY 2006.

Each contributing agency signs a Memorandum of Understanding with the Grants.gov Program Management Office (PMO).

As part of this agreement the Grants.gov PMO provides the following services:

- Assists agencies in using Grants.gov's Find and Apply functionality, including technical support
- Conducts operations and maintenance, and customer support for the Grants.gov system, including the operation of a Contact Center that is available work days by phone and/or email between the hours of 7am – 9pm Eastern Time
- Designates a liaison to serve as a point-of-contact for all issues related to the adoption and utilization of Grants.gov
- Deploys enhancements to Grants.gov's Find and Apply functionality
- Awards and manages contracts to provide support and services for Grants.gov operations.
- Provides program progress, status reports, and financial updates
- Provides project management documentation, including Exhibit 300 of OMB Circular A-11, work breakdown structure, project plans, and statements of work
- Provides support for activities associated with testing, certification, verification and validation of Grants.gov system
- Develops OMB-cleared forms meeting government-wide criteria

Grants.gov FY 2006 Budget*

Systems Integration*	\$5,720,239
Hosting, Forms Maintenance, Forms Development, System Merge, Functional Enhancements, Systems, Architecture Scaling, Hardware/Licenses, Operations & Maintenance	
Contact Center*	\$969,274
Grants.gov Program Management Operations	\$921,261
Federal Staff Salaries and Benefits, Training, Travel, URL Fees, Equipment, Telephone, Supplies, PSC Charges	
Outreach & Liaison*	\$833,290
Training, Marketing, Outreach, Content Mangement	
Independent Validation and Verification*	\$847,814
Testing Activities, Technical Analysis and Compliance	
Program Management Support*	\$436,674
Capital Planning, Functional Management, Program Management Support	
	\$9,728,552

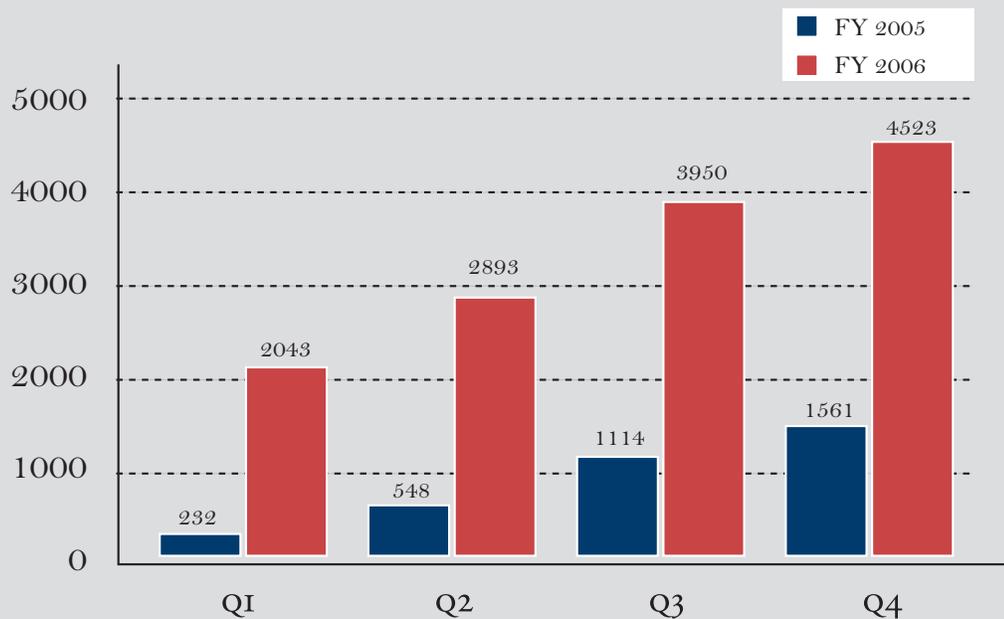
* The expenditures displayed for the Grants.gov program activities are based on the invoice amounts submitted by contractors during FY 2006. The total amount shown does not represent Grants.gov FY 2006 budget in its entirety. The remainder of the Grants.gov budget was obligated to cover contract period of performances for past FY 2006.

Adoption and Utilization

Agency adoption and utilization grew by 500% during FY 2006.

In FY 2006 alone, agencies posted over 2,290 application packages and received over 90,000 electronic applications via Grants.gov. Agencies continued to post 100% of their discretionary funding opportunities on Grants.gov in FY 2006 and OMB set a goal for agencies to post an application package for at least 75% of the synopses posted. 80% percent of the 26 agencies met 75% posting goals and 10 agencies exceeded the goal by hitting 100%.

Figure 2: Cumulative number of packages posted by quarter



Benefits for Agencies and Applicants

As the single source for Federal government-wide competitive grant opportunities, Grants.gov makes it faster, easier and more cost effective for grant applicants to electronically interact with Federal grant-making agencies.

Grants.gov Benefits for Agencies

- Federal grant-making agencies are able to inform the entire grant community about available opportunities through one easily accessed source.
- Federal agencies have a readily available means of interacting with the grant community from registration through application processing.
- Simplifying the grant application process decreases the agency's costs, time, confusion and hassle.
- Agency information about federal grant opportunities can be found and researched much more easily.
- Website upgrades and enhancements have added functionality for grantor agencies.
- Electronic grant application processing is easier and more cost effective.
- System-to-System integration delivers seamless end-to-end grants processing.

Grants.gov Benefits for Applicants

- A single, centralized, secure and reliable source is available to apply for all Federal grants.
- Applicants and users throughout the entire grant community can learn about available Federal grant opportunities through one easily accessed source.
- Applicants have a custom designed and readily available means of interacting with all Federal grantor agencies, from initial registration to application submission.
- Simplifying the grant application process saves the applicants time, resources, confusion and hassle.
- The redesigned website improves navigation, enabling more efficient access to government information which helps applicants find and use grant information.
- System-to-System integration delivers end-to-end grants processing.

The Grants.gov Program Management Office worked hand in hand with agencies and concentrated on system adoption, utilization, and customer satisfaction.

Status of Agency Participation						
Through 9-30-06 Agency	Discretionary		Discretionary Breakout			Electronic Submissions Received FY06
	Total Synopses	Total Packages	Number of Synopses with matching Packages	Synopses with no Package	Packages with no Synopses	
CNCS	16	2	2	14		13
DHS*	27	32	18	9	14	1,025
DOC	94	140	88	6	52	3,324
DOD	111	62	59	52	9	1,220
DOE	111	102	101	10	1	4,104
DOI	133	108	106	27	2	705
DOL	14	14	13	1	1	677
State	59	59	52	7	7	981
DOT	41	62	38	3	24	913
ED	133	108	106	27	2	5,721
EPA	195	197	195		2	2,271
HHS*	1,195	801	770	425	31	52,088
HUD*	35	33	33	2	1	5,166
IMLS	11	11	11			71
NARA	10	10	10			35
NASA*	30	30	30	7	14	305
NEA	15	17	15		2	1,504
NEH*	33	38	44	5		1,399
NSF*	221	190	174	47	2	760
SBA	8	8	8			274
SSA*	5	5	5		1	529
USAID*	83	84	81	2	3	104
USDA	121	66	62	59	4	1,160
USDOJ*	88	110	88		22	5,397
Treasury	5	5	5			293
VA*	4	3	3	1	1	6
TOTAL	2,798	2,297	2,117	704	195	90,045

*Adjustments were made in counting methodology with approval from OMB

Adoption and Utilization in FY 2006 exceeded expectations

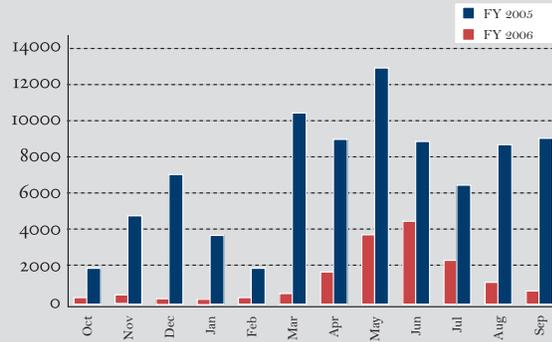
- Of the 26 agencies, 21 reached the FY 2006 goal of posting 75% of their application packages for discretionary funding opportunities on Grants.gov.
- 76% of all federal discretionary grants opportunities were available for electronic application through Grants.gov.
- 2,821 discretionary synopses were posted in FY 2006, with 5,197 total posted since the advent of the Grants.gov.
- 2,298 discretionary application packages were posted in FY 2006, with a total of 6,230 published.

Applicants submitted over 90,000 applications, exceeding the FY 2006 goal of 45,000, with 106,205 submissions received since initiative inception.

Figure 3: Grants.gov submissions by month

Submission Goals Exceeded

For FY 2006, the number of submissions increased by 400%.

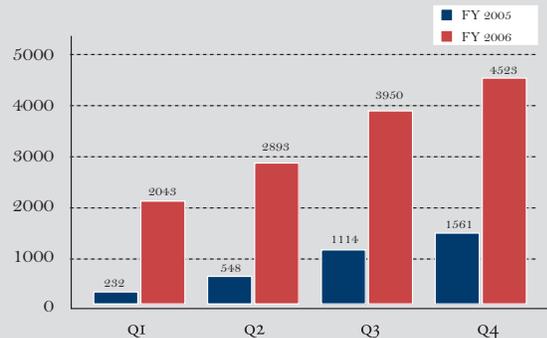


Over 52,000 Authorized Organization Representatives (AOR), an individual authorized to submit grant applications for an organization, were registered to submit applications online at the end of FY 2006.

Figure 4: Authorized Organization Representatives registered by quarter

Number of AORs More Than Doubles

The number of registered AORs has more than doubled from almost 18,000 in FY 2005 to over 52,000 in FY 2006.



“Because South Dakotans expect an especially high degree of service from their elected officials, Senator Johnson works hard to seek out any and all Federal funding sources that may help to meet the needs and priorities of his constituents. In the time I have assisted the Senator with this task, I have found Grants.gov to be a truly indispensable tool.”

- Matt Varilek, Economic Development Director
Office of Senator Tim Johnson (D-SD)

Reaching out to the Grants Community

From the grant community to federal grant makers, Grants.gov has helped reduce the time required for searching for grant opportunities and processing grant applications.

Grants.gov's FY 2006 Outreach activities endeavored to further communicate to the grant community that they can find more grant opportunities, information, online tools, and support, making it possible to apply for more grants in less time — with less costs and hassle.

During FY 2006, the Grants.gov Team

- Engaged more than 15,000 individuals
- Participated in over 115 separate meetings, trainings, conferences, teleconferences, and presentations
- Reached stakeholders in 24 states and Washington, DC

In addition, the Grants.gov Help Desk was available to answer any questions the grant community had on how to Find and Apply for federal grant opportunities posted on Grants.gov

- Number of customers serviced: 92,907
- Emailed responses to questions: 29,978

Examples of FY 2006 Outreach activities

Early Registration WebCast—Washington, DC: A live webcast as a follow-up to the Federal Register Notice, emphasizing the need to register early with Grants.gov
Participants: 4,000

National Indian Educational Association Conference Workshop—Denver, CO
Attendance: 2,000

Congressman Lincoln Davis' Federal Funding Seminar—Manchester, TN
Attendance: 250

National Association of County and City Health Officials Teleconference—Washington, DC
Attendance: 50

Grants Conference for Texas Hispanic Serving Organizations—Houston, TX
Attendance: 50

Awards & Recognition

- **2006 Digital Government Achievement Award Announced:** Grants.gov received the 2006 Digital Government Achievement Award from the Center for Digital Government in the Government to Government category.
- **American Council for Technology Intergovernmental Solutions Award Finalist:** The American Council for Technology (ACT) recognized Grants.gov as one of 15 Federal and Department of Defense Finalists for the 2006 ACT Intergovernmental Solutions Awards.

"With literally thousands of non-profits in Northern Virginia, I'm often asked where people can go to get the necessary Federal grant money. The resource I always mention first is Grants.gov. Their capable staff, extensive knowledge of the grants process, and ability to match worthy organizations with Federal grants is unparalleled. They should be the first stop for every nonprofit financial officer."

-Congressman James P. Moran
Virginia – District 08

"We are delighted to be part of a standard process that offers a unified common Federal face to our applicant and grant recipient communities. It enables a higher degree of visibility for our programs across potential applicant communities."

-Diana King
Computer Specialist/Project Leader
Administration of Children and Family
U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services

"Grants.gov has improved the business of grants for the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH). It is a mechanism that allowed ISDH to streamline our submission process by creating the perfect environment for tighter control of the application process, resulting in increased tracking mechanisms, reporting abilities, and allowing for efficient grant submission business practices. The helpline and staff at Grants.gov have been an invaluable resource to us as an agency and continue to assist us in improving our application practices. Thank you for everything."

- Jennifer C. Hoffman
Director, Policy & Grant Management Division
Indiana State Department of Health

"By partnering to launch and link DC's Grants Information Data System to Grants.gov, the DC Office of the Chief Technology Officer and OPGD are supporting the Mayor's vision of 'Making Government Work' for all District agencies and nonprofit service providers."

-Lafayette Barnes, Director,
Office of Partnership and Grants Development
Government of the District of Columbia

Looking forward to FY 2007

Grants.gov is moving forward in FY 2007 with optimism and an aggressive plan to improve business processes and communications with end users which will build upon successes of FY 2006.

FY 2007 Mission

- Establish and strengthen grant community communications with Grants.gov
- Grants.gov system conversion, development, and deployment
- Data standardization, conversion, development and clearance of forms with OMB/GPC/GEB
- Maintain systems operations and maintenance
- Enhance Grants.gov program operations through standard operating procedures, communication management, earned value management and return on investment.



GRANTS.GOV

FIND. APPLY. SUCCEED.SM



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